

**Clash over land dispute
Husband beaten
to death, wife
fighting for life**

From Our Correspondent
GAIBANDHA, Aug 5: Husband was beaten to death and the wife sustained serious injuries by the rival group over the issue of a disputed plot at village Chaporehati under Sunderganj Thana on July 26.
A long standing quarrel continued among victim Abdul Jobber and Abul Hossain, Abdur Rahman, Wahed Ali of same village over the possession of a disputed land. The situation turned complex on July 22 after exchanging hot words. Being furious, rival group led by Abul Hossain attacked Abdul Jobber and his wife beat them up mercilessly. Soon the victims fell unconscious and were removed to Sunderganj Health complex in critical conditions. Abdul Jobber, however, succumbed to his injuries after five days and his wife is still fighting for life. A case was registered with Sunderganj Thana.
Another new adds: A six-day long programme on free treatment and voluntary medical services under the auspices of Nabeen Pally Unnayan Sangtha began at Sadullapur Muktiyodha office from August 2.
Dr Monirul Hossain Sadik, Assistant Professor of Bogra Medical College rendered free services on behalf of voluntary organisation. Some hundreds patients got treatment almost free of cost.



MUNSHIGANJ: Labourers working at the partially eroded building of Dhaida Health Complex in Louhaganj thana of Munshiganj. — Star photo

**Counterfeit
currency
notes recovered**

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, Aug 5: Twenty counterfeit currency notes of 100-taka denomination were recovered from one Faruque Ahmed in Companyganj thana today.
Faruque of village Majergaon went to Dayarbar where he gave a counterfeit one hundred taka note to a grocer this afternoon.
When challenged by the shopkeeper Faruque confessed that he had counterfeited currency notes with him. He was handed over to the police.

**Four imprisoned
for abducting a
schoolgirl**

From Our Correspondent
KISHOREGANJ, Aug 5: Md Mazrul Ahasan, Special Tribunal and Additional Session Judge, Second Court, Kishoreganj in a judgement delivered on July 31 last sentenced four persons to suffer rigorous imprisonment for seven years and to pay a fine of Taka 1000 each on charge of kidnapping a school girl.
The tried persons were Mukta, Lal Mia who is still absconding, Umarit and Nur Mohammad. The court also acquitted five others.
According to the prosecution, on the night of January 9, 1990, the accused persons entered the house of Fahimuddin Bhuiyan of village Mandalbhog in Katiadi thana and abducted his daughter Zameela Yasmin, a student of class V of Mandalbhog Government Primary School at gun point.
A case was registered with Katiadi police and after investigation chargesheet was submitted against nine persons.

**Slaughtered body
recovered in
Meherpur**

MEHERPUR, Aug 5: Police recovered slaughtered body of an outlawed party activist from a frontier village in Sadar thana of the district on Saturday night, reports UNB.
The dead was identified as Shamsul Islam of Taranagar village of the same thana. He was a close accomplice of Ruhul, leader of outlawed Purba Bangla Communist Party.
According to police, Shamsul was wanted in connection with several murder, dacoity and rape cases.
Villagers said Shamsul slaughtered one Jahan Karigar of Anadabas village only two months ago. Earlier, nearly a year ago, Shamsul also tied up Jahan Karigar and his son and raped his daughter in front of them.

**3 girls, 3 children
rescued from
traffickers
in Lalmonirhat**

LALMONIRHAT, Aug 5: Three girls and three children were rescued and two alleged human traffickers were arrested by Lalmonirhat Sadar thana police from Mahendranagar railway station today, reports BSS.
The alleged traffickers — Sharifuddin and Fatema Begum collected the girls and children from Kumia Gach Union of Sadar thana of Lalmonirhat promising them lucrative jobs abroad and took them to Lalmonirhat railway station. People in the station suspected the movements of the traffickers and informed police.
Police arrested them and sent to custody.
Police said the traffickers attempted to smuggle out the girls and children across the border.

**Padma, Mahananda turn furious
eroding fresh area in C'nawabganj**

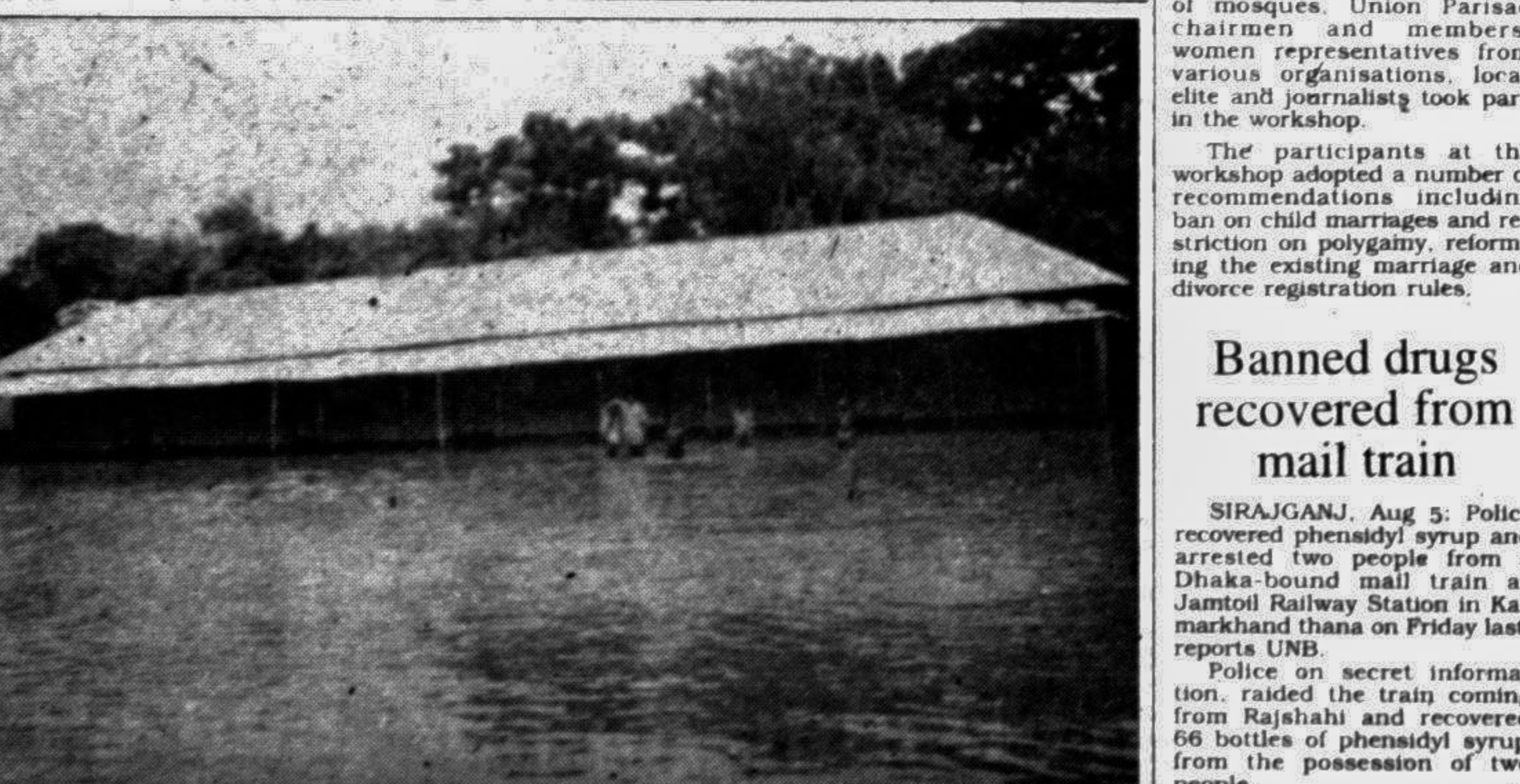
From NSM Mahbubur Rahman
CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Aug 5: Vast areas of Nawabganj sadar and Shibgonj thanas of the district have begun to be eroded as the flood waters in the Padma and the Mahananda are increasing rapidly. During the last few days about 2 hundred houses of the 'char' areas have been engulfed by the Padma. Meanwhile, 50 thousand people have been victimised by the onrush of flood water.
The erosion has been taking place in about 20 kilometre areas from Monoharpur of Shibgonj thana to Bakharali of the sadar thana. Fresh areas are being eroded everyday. The very recent erosion which has begun in Monoharpur, Hasanpur, Dovagi, Lakhsimpur, Paka, Radbakantapur, Babilaboria of Shibgonj thana and Narayanpur, Sundarpur, Zohorpur, Bakharali and Alatali of sadar thana has already taken 2 hundred houses under water leaving about one thousand people ruined. Besides this, riverbank areas such as Nampat, Mollatola, Uzirpur, Biswanathpur and Bagdanga have come under the threat of erosion in last two days. Last year, a highly reputed and century-old high school, Paka High School was destroyed. Now the Birshrestha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir College is under serious threat of erosion. If an immediate measure is not taken up, this college will be destined to meet the same fate as the Paka School. Not only that hundreds of houses will go under water along with this.
According to the erosion victims, wealth of at least one thousand crore taka has been damaged by the continuous erosion during the last 25 years.
Paka and Narayanpur unions went under water 2 years ago. There is no trace of 50 thousand acres of high yielding cultivable lands. As a result, thousands of people have become homeless and jobless. According to a local source, most of them have taken up smuggling as their new profession.
Although the destruction has been going on for more than 25 years, no realistic or fruitful measure other than relief was taken up to save the areas.
In the meantime, Namoni-mgachi under Nawabganj pourashava has been completely destroyed at a violent erosion of the Mahananda last year and the adjacent areas like Rajarampur, Namorajarampur, Durgapur, Haripur have fallen under threat.
Although a measure has been taken up to check the erosion and the preliminary functions have started, the people of the adjacent areas complained in a press conference recently that this is quite insufficient and unrealistic and they demanded replanning and sufficient allotment.

**Continuous erosion engulfs fresh
areas in Barisal, Barguna**

From Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Aug 5: Continuous erosion of Naya Bhangani river, a tributary of the Meghna has engulfed at least three villages with more than one hundred homesteads rendering nearly two hundred families homeless in Hizla thana of Barisal district. These homeless and helpless people have taken shelter at different embankments under the open sky and are now passing their days in an utter helplessness.
Continuous erosion has also devoured a huge tracts of cropland, educational institutions, religious places, business establishments in the Hizla bandar area including dwelling houses.
A large portion of Ghosherhat, Pattanibhanga, Harinathpur unions of Hizla thana and Shoula, Badartuni and Namarhat villages have already been devoured. The rest portions are also on the verge of abolition.
Local people urged to the concerned authority to take immediate measures to control erosion as early as possible.
River erosion has also taken serious turn in Barguna district. According to sources, more than 5 hundred dwelling houses were devoured by the river Bishikhal in Patharghata thana, Barguna sadar, and Betagi thana areas during last one year time.
Many business establishments of Kakchira bazar and Amua bandar area have been devoured. Huge tracts of croplands have also been engulfed.

BARISAL: Erosion along the Hizla thana area of Barisal by the Nayabhangani river. — Star photo

Baleswar river of the district is also eroding many areas. According to different local sources, Sandhya river in Jhalakati, Arial Khan river in Babuganj and Mehendiganj, Tetulia in Bhola, Kirtonkhola in Barisal and Lohalia river in Patuakhali district are threatening huge tracts of croplands.
Degree College here is now at the verge of total extinction. Meantime, the principal's quarter of the college has gone almost in the river bed.
This river is also eroding along the Bararipara thana headquarters. Two villages — South Nazirpur and Shalkathi of this thana are being devoured gradually.
In Patuakhali district, Andharmanik and Khaprabhanga rivers are also eroding. Meanwhile at least 200 acres of cropland has already been engulfed during last one year time, local sources said.



CHANDPUR: North Sreeramdi Government School inundated by flood water in Chandpur Municipal area. — Star photo

**Till end of 1995-96 FY
Tk 27cr power bills lying
outstanding in Sylhet Div**

From Staff Correspondent
SYLHET, Aug 5: A total amount of Taka 27 crore 41 lakh 15 thousand and 84 has been lying unrealised in 4 districts of Sylhet division as electricity bill, till the end of last financial year (1995-96). However, an amount of Taka 64 crore 50 lakh 79 thousand was realised from the electricity consumers during the said period against the total demand of Taka 66 crore 95 lakh 40 thousand.
The Power Development Board disconnected a total of 10,302 defaulting connections and started cases against them against a total demand of Taka 3 crore 49 lakh 78 thousand during the year in the 4 districts of Sylhet division. Of the total outstanding, Taka 4 crore 51 lakh 76 thousand and 584 had been lying with the consumers of 13 electric supply areas in the Distribution division, Sylhet.
The electric supply areas in the division are, Balaganj, Beanibazar, Biswanath, Fenchuganj, Golapganj, Jaintapur, Kanaighat and Tajpur in Sylhet district and Chhatak, Dera, Jagannathpur, Jamalganj and Sunamganj in the district of Sunamganj. Taka 6 crore 38 lakh 48 thousand and 111 had been lying with the consumers of 7 electric supply areas in the Moulvibazar Distribution division comprised of Moulvibazar and Habiganj districts. The supply areas in the division are: Ajmiriganj, Baniachang and Habiganj in the Habiganj district and Barlekha, Kulaura, Shamsheernagar and Moulvibazar in Moulvibazar district.
Taka 8 crore 16 lakh 93 thousand and 52 had been lying outstanding with the consumers of sales and Distribution division, Sylhet-I, while Taka 3 crore 68 lakh 74 thousand and 847 had been lying with the consumers in the sales and distribution division, Sylhet-II and Taka 4 crore 65 lakh 22 thousand and 489 had been lying with the consumers of sales and distribution division Sylhet-III.
Sylhet-I, Sylhet-II and Sylhet-III divisions are comprised of the Sylhet town and its adjoining areas.
During the year, a total of 36 crore 23 lakh units of electricity were brought to the Sylhet circle from the national grid while 31 crore 88 lakh units were sold to the consumers. During the month of June, the ending month of the year, the system loss was at 18.82 against the PDBs target of 14.24. The years highest system loss stood at 20.18 per cent against the Boards target at 19 per cent during the month of July last year.

**Smuggled goods
recovered**

COMILLA, Aug 5: Bangladesh Rifles in a drive recovered smuggled Indian goods worth about Tk 2.5 lakh from the Padur Bazar area of the district, reports UNB.
Acting on a tip-off, the jawans of 97 battalion seized 950 pieces of Indian saree, 30 bottles of Phensidyl and 175 pieces of crockery from the area in their raid on July 15 last.

**Old man crushed
to death in
road accident**

From Our Correspondent
KUSHTIA, Aug 5: An old man aged 70 was crushed under the wheels of a speeding minibus bound for Pabna at Kushtia-Ishurdi road near Ranakoria village under Mirpur thana on Saturday evening.
The man was identified as Yasin Ali, 70, of village Ranakoria who was crossing the road after purchasing the daily necessities.
The Minibus fled away after the accident. Local people in protest of the accident blocked the road for about an hour.
Police sent the body to Kushtia General Hospital Morgue for postmortem. A case has been registered with Mirpur Police station in this connection.

**Smuggled Indian
sugar seized
from tempo**

From Our Correspondent
GAIBANDHA, Aug 5: Palashbari Thana police seized seven bags full of Indian smuggled sugar worth about Tk 20,000 from Goreya bridge on Palashbari-Gaibandha highway on July 31.
Police said, during night duties Palashbari Thana patrol police challenged a tempo bearing number Gaibandha PA-05-0069 loaded with seven bags of contraband sugar bound for Gaibandha. During interrogation tempo driver could not furnish satisfactory reply.
Police, however, sized the tempo together with the sugar bags. The driver of the tempo was also taken to the police custody.
Another news adds: Gaibandha Thana police in two separate drives recovered 14 pieces of reportedly snatched CI sheet from a pond on August 1.
Gaibandha relief department on July 28 issued 31 and half bundle of CI sheets in favour of some destitute villagers of Sadullapur Thana. On the way 19 bundles of sheets were snatched away by the miscreants.

**Two-day course on
Stroke Management
held in Barisal**

From Staff Correspondent
BARISAL, Aug 5: A two-day long course on Stroke Management for the general practitioners was held here in Barisal at the Sher-e-Bangla Medical College recently.
The course was conducted by David Lowen and Helen Wallace, Prof Rashid Uddin Ahmed, Prof Anisul Haq and Dr. Anwar Ullah. Clinical and practical — both the sessions were taken in three groups. 250 doctors from Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College participated. Prof Abdul Karim Mollah, Principal, SBMC, presided over both the sessions.
Speakers in different sessions said, stroke is the 3rd common cause of death in our country. Early diagnosis and rapid referral to hospital care when necessary can greatly reduce both mortality and morbidity.
There are also quite a large number of patients who come with the aftermath of stroke. Identifying the risk factors, attending them for the enhancement of the quality of life and preventing another attack require another vigilant judgement of a general practitioner, they added. The course was jointly organised by SBMC and a pharmaceutical company in accordance with the Institute of the Post Graduation Medicine and Research (IPGMR).
At the end of the course certificates were distributed among the participant doctors of SBMC by Prof Abdul Latif, Deptt. of Medicine, SBMC, Barisal.

**Banned drugs
recovered from
mail train**

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 5: Police recovered phenisidyl syrup and arrested two people from a Dhaka-bound mail train at Jamtoli Railway Station in Kamarkhand thana on Friday last, reports UNB.
Police on secret information, raided the train coming from Rajshahi and recovered 66 bottles of phenisidyl syrup from the possession of two people.
The arrested were identified as Kasem Uddin, 35, and Sanwar Hossain, 30.

**Four held for attempting
to register false
land documents**

From Our Correspondent
PABNA, Aug 5: Four persons including one woman were arrested from the office of the Faridpur Thana Sub-Registrar for allegedly attempting to register a forged deed of sale of land through false impersonation and attempt to steal some registered deeds from the said office recently.
It was alleged that Sonabanu, 35, wife of Jamarat Ali of village Ratanpur under Faridpur thana of Pabna district, identifying herself falsely as Meher Nigar went to Faridpur Thana Sub-Registrar's office for putting her signature as owner of land shown in the schedule of the deed. Sonabanu also identified herself as mother of Abul Hossain, 40, and attempted to get the deed registered for sale of 0.43 acres of land of Mouza Dighula as contained in plot numbers from 1706 to 1719.
The value of the said land was shown as Tk 20,000.
When Sonabanu, her alleged son Abul Hossain and identified Abdur Rahman appeared before the Sub-Registrar Nazma Yasmin. They were asked several questions and at one stage she became doubtful as to whether her alleged son Abdur Rahman was the actual son of the executant Sonabanu.

**Aman cultivation
target may
suffer setback**

From Our Correspondent
JHENIDAH, Aug 5: Aman paddy cultivation is likely to be hampered in the district for want of sufficient rainfall during the season, it was reported.
According to District Agriculture Extension Department (AED) sources, they had taken a target to cultivate Aman on 83,510 hectares of land in Jhenidah sadar, Sailkupa, Harinakundu, Kaliyanj, Kotchandpur and Mohepsur thanas.



TANGAIL: Picture shows a bank in Kaku village, Tangail, under severe threat of erosion. — Star photo